15th December 1953]

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) The Additional District Panchayat Officer, Tiruchirappalli, who enquired into the complaints, reported that they were the result of differences between the ex-President of the Kundavelli Panchayat and a set of people in the village that arose during the last general elections and that the complaints were baseless."

Control of pests affecting crops in Malabar.

* 58 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the paddy crops anywhere in Malabar were affected by pests in August-September 1953; and

(*b*) if so, the extent of the damage and the measures adopted by the Government to control the pest?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—(*a*) The paddy crop was affected by pest outbreak due to 'fulgarid' bug in six villages in the Payyannur firka.

" (*b*) The pest attack was spread over an area of about 270 acres in the six villages. Dusting of Hexidole 810 was adopted by the local agricultural staff immediately the pest was noticed. This resulted in the satisfactory control of the pest."

Hostels for Harijans in Gingee taluk.

* 59 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Animal Husbandry be pleased to state the number of hostels for Harijans in Gingee taluk, South Arcot district?

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" Nil."

Raising the status of the Kasaragod Panchayat Board to that of a municipality.

* 60 *Q.*—SRI M. S. MOGRAL : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether Kasaragod Panchayat Board satisfies all the requirements for a municipality; and if so, why the Government have not so far raised it to the status of a municipality?

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—" No. The latter part of the question does not arise."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Questions over."